THE Lions' Pride
OF SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY

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Financial aid faces an increase in demand.

Saint Leo gives students options during hard economic times

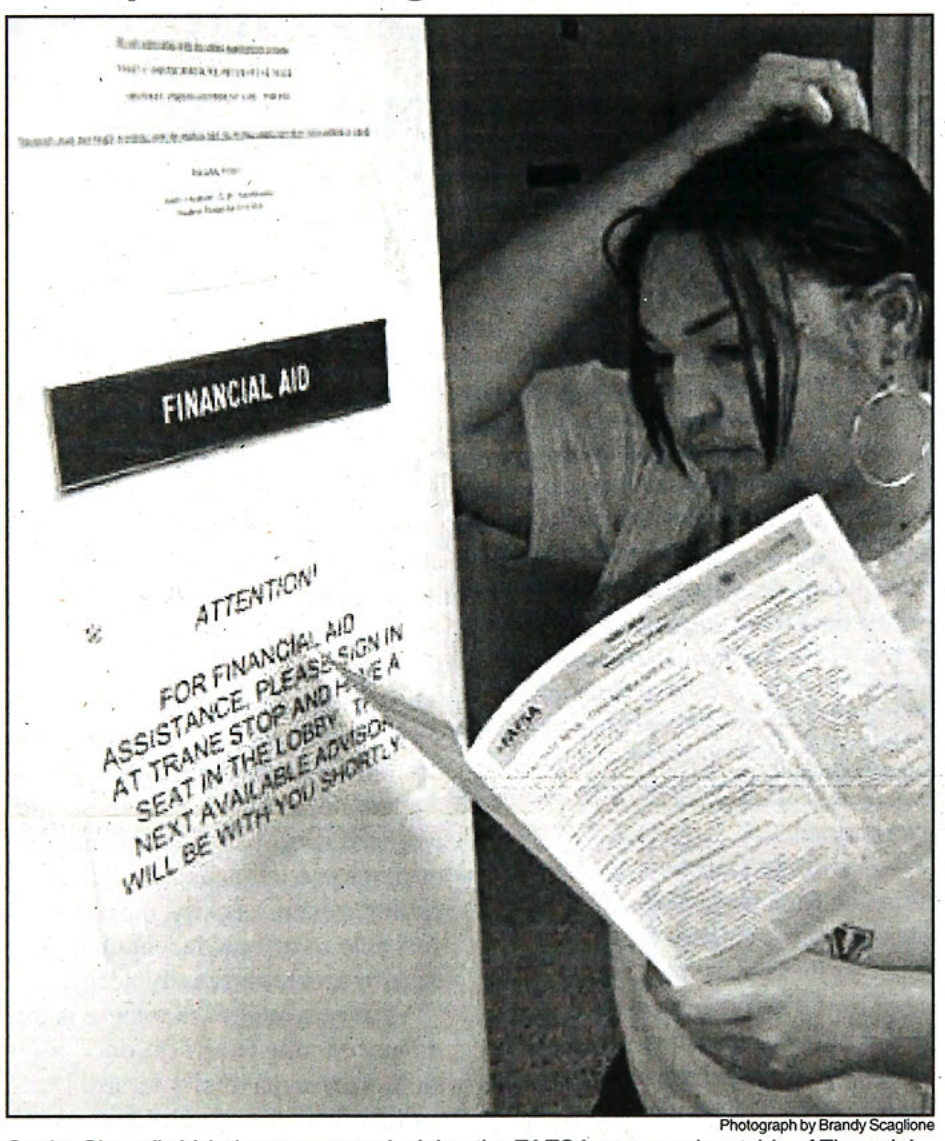
BY JESSICA PALL & MINDY PIERCE
Lions' Pride Staff Writers

"We're [financial aid] trying to work with students because we know it's hard," said Joanna Herndon, Saint Leo financial aid advisor. As the economy continues to decline, students are feeling the pressure.

One does not have to watch the news or read the newspaper to realize the economy is in a bad recession. However, many high-school graduates are applying to college. With more students and less money, current college students are concerned about how this may affect financial aid.

"I feel like I need more financial aid, and with the economy the way it is I feel like there won't be enough to go around," said junior Stacy Lloyd.

Saint Leo students are safe, however. According to Gary Bracken, vice president of enrollment at Saint Leo, students are not losing financial aid at this university. Saint Leo, along with the other private colleges in Florida, are keeping the same monetary policies, while state universities are raising their tuitions and cutting back enrollment. This is important because 93 percent of Saint Leo traditional-age students receive some sort of financial aid and more than 91 percent of those receive grant and scholarship aid that will not have to be paid back.



Photograph by Brandy Scaglione
Senior Chenelia Valerio attempts to decipher the FAFSA paperwork outside of Financial Aid.

At Saint Leo, funds for the Academic Grant scholarship are unlimited; however, there is an ever increase of need-based aid. According to Bracken, the school is making sure though that they are setting aside enough money for the growing demand.

"Admission counselors are working with incoming freshman to give tuition discounts and need-based aid," said Herndon.

If a current student's financial situation at home changes, like the loss of a parent, Bracken advises students to write a letter for extenuating circumstances. The school will then re-evaluate one's financial options.

"There is a definite increase in students applying with change in circumstance. If there are any kinds of changes in the circumstances of the students, such as a student's parent losing a job, financial aid will re-evaluate the student's aid status and work from there," said Herndon.

How do students apply for federal financial aid? The first step is filling out the FASFA form. If students do not fill out the form, they will have no chance for receiving any financial aid from the state. Thus, all students should plan on filling out the form, which can be found online at http://www.fasfa.com.

"We urge students and families not to delay filing the federal student aid application because we expect the competition for grants, scholarships, and loans will be at an all-time high," said Craig V. Carroll, chief executive officer of Student Financial Aid Service, Inc.

For the 2009-2010 academic year, there will be a fierce competition for the estimated $144 billion of federal, state, and institutional aid available.

FIN. AID CON'T PAGE 4

Generation Y in the workplace

BY SIMONE WILLIAMS
Lions' Pride Ad Manager

"I plan to go to grad school. Part of the reason is to avoid the job market," said senior Jonathan Bellot.

With today's economy being the worst it has been since the deep recession of 1974, it is no wonder so many individuals and families are having financial difficulties. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the national unemployment rate was at 7.6 percent in January. Florida's unemployment rate has hit a 16-year high at 8.1 percent. With unemployment rates soaring high, it's Generation Y who has the most to worry about.

Joblessness is far higher in workers under 30. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, for workers under 29, the unemployment rate was well over 11 percent. This is far worse than the 9 percent just a year ago. Older workers have a leg up on Generation Y; companies lucky enough to need to hire more workers are more likely to take their pick of more seasoned job hunters.

"There's rumor that the market will improve in a few years. I know a few students who are banking on that, but I am worried about getting a job even after grad school, especially with my major," said Bellot.

Bellot is an English major. Despite preconceived notions that most English majors want to teach, Bellot wants to be a writer. He hopes to have his work anthologized someday, but Bellot is wise enough to know that writing won't put food on the table at this point in time.

"It's especially a problem for me because I want to be a writer. Most English majors are expected to teach. I don't want to teach English at a high school level and getting a PhD would take too long," said Bellot. "I will have to get a job working nine to five to support myself and write on the side. I don't want to do that either. Either way, it sucks."

It is true. Most Generation Y students were told the way to their dreams was through college. College is important and does provide a huge advantage in the job market. But yet and still, college is not a substitute for networking.

Generation Y has been described as young, needy, hard-working, lower in levels of general literacy, and too dependent on technology. Studies have shown that most people 29 and under rely too heavily on the technologic assistance of today's inventions. But, this characteristic of Generation Y also seems to be a plus in today's job market.

A factor keeping most Generation Y job hunters jobless could be their unwillingness to accept any job that's offered. Another factor is appearance. Generation Y came with a surge in piercings and body art. While these may be appropriate for contemporary aesthetics, visible piercings and tattoos don't go over well in the workplace.

"Basically, interviewing for a job has not changed. You need to have the same interviewing skills as generations before," said Dr. Peter Marian, assistant director of Graduate Admissions. Marian also teaches some Tourism classes on campus. "My advice for Generation Y job seekers is to work on appearance in an interview.

GENERATION Y CON'T PAGE 4

Opinions

Tuition grants hurt economy in the long run

BY JOSHUA M. SMITH
Lions' Pride Online Editor

Due to the economic downturn our nation is experiencing, many students are worried about how they will continue to afford the rising cost of tuition. Government is stepping up the amount of aid they give to students via grants and loans. While these efforts may help students in the short term, the long-term implications are not very attractive.

Whenever government subsidizes an industry—trains, automobiles, education, etc.—it effectively decreases that industry's competitiveness in the free market. This is because every enterprise seeks not only to survive but also to grow. The service that enterprise delivers is not as important as whether that service leads to continued success for the enterprise.

For instance, a university's mission may be to educate students, but the education of students is a means to an end for the university. Tuition money allows universities to expand facilities and increase enrollment, which helps bring in more tuition money, which allows the university to expand facilities and increase enrollment, which helps bring in more tuition money….

You get the picture.

In a perfect world, there would be nothing wrong with this cycle. However, in the real world universities end up siphoning money not just from students and their parents but from the government—and by "government," I mean "taxpayers."

The laws of supply and demand state that when demand for a good or a service increases, the cost of that good or service will increase as well. Thus, as government began to grant taxpayer money to students in order to pay tuition, universities realized that there was plenty of free money to be had and began to increase tuition.

The simple fact is, not everyone should be going to college. Many students—at Saint Leo and universities across the nation—are pursuing higher learning not so much because they are passionate about becoming professionals but rather because their parents offered to pay for it. The other students who really do want an education but do not have the money end up having to depend on the government to help them afford college.

Now, there is nothing wrong with students seeking financial aid because they want to go to college, but tuition costs are never going to go down so long as universities can count on an increasing flow of money from the government teat.

Grant money does not just grow on trees. It comes either from taxpayers or from government bonds that add to the nation debt ($10,700,000,000,000 and counting...). So, every dollar in grant money is either taken from a taxpaying citizen of this country or from your future taxpaying children. Granting money to students now that our nation cannot afford simply makes no sense.

Now imagine if you will a world in which our government did not muck up the education market by injecting money it does not have. Taxpayers (i.e. parents) would be able to keep more of their income, which would help them to pay for their children's education. Universities, once they realized that the flow of taxpayer dollars had dried up, would have to *compete* for students. Some universities would lower their tuition costs; others would improve the quality of their educational product.

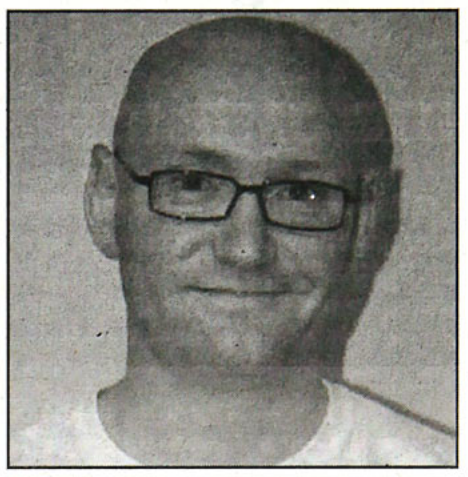
Most importantly, students, as the *consumers* of education, would become empowered.

Consider your iPod or MP3 player. Prices of MP3 players have fallen steadily since they were first invented. Not only that, but their quality has improved. This is because different companies are competing for your dollars. Those who have lots of money might buy an iPod for the quality. Others who do not have as much money might buy a Zune instead. The point is, MP3 players are affordable *because* of competition for a limited amount of dollars.

Now imagine if government provided unlimited grant money to help consumers purchase MP3 players. There would be less incentive for companies to build better quality MP3 players for less money because they would know "free" money would be coming their way from the government. If taxpayers were forced to subsidize music lovers in this way, we would probably be paying $500+ for a 1-gigabyte iPod Shuffle today.

Government subsidization of higher education is simply not sustainable. We let it go on because it benefits us in the short term. However, with all of this concern going around about leaving a cleaner environment behind for our children, shouldn't we be at least as concerned with leaving them a sustainable economy as well?

SHE SAID



HE SAID

Tax dollars can educate our future

BY KATIE GAISER
Lions' Pride Layout Editor

It's no secret to us college students what it means to be worried about paying off tuition. Students are struggling all over the country, trying to cope with the increases in tuition charges and the decrease in financial aid reward. Given the state of the economy, universities are not expected to hand out the millions because there is simply not enough government funding.

This is a problem at our very own Saint Leo University. With the cost of tuition so high, almost every student must pray that financial aid will find some heaven sent amount of money to help ease the burden of paying tuition. Luckily, the school is still able to offer a decent chunk of cash to those who really need it.

But one might ask, where is this money coming from? If you answered taxpayers, you are correct. It is the same old story. The government cannot afford to give the money, so they take it from the taxpayers. The taxpayers get angry because, what if they don't necessarily *want* to fund higher education to support the future prosperity of our country? Shouldn't we get to choose how and when our money is taken for the greater good?

Well folks, we've never gotten to choose. Taxpayers, including myself, can complain all day and night that our money is being taken for a cause we do not support. However, the government will simply continue to take it. I don't understand why taxpayer money for educational grants is any different than taxpayer money for police officers and detention centers, which house killers and rapists. We need education just as much as we need law enforcement and protection from these kinds of people.

Furthermore, let's say that taxpayers get the chance to refrain from forking over their hard earned tax dollars. Now, with that money gone, 1,000 students are unable to pay for their tuition. Seven hundred fifty of those students have no place to go but Saint Leo and end up on the street. Five hundred of those students are now homeless people who seek government aid to survive. And where does that government aid come from? The taxpayers.

Ultimately, taxpayers are always going to end up paying for someone else's benefit. If there's nothing we can do about it, why complain? Our system has always worked this way. The American people are supposed to take care of the American people. It's what we do.

And think of the percentage of students these days who actually attempt to go off to college. This number is huge. Now imagine all of these students staying at home and on the streets because there simply wasn't enough funding to give them an education. You can expect an increase in drug and alcohol use, crime rates, arrests, and unwed pregnancies. Our youth would start to decay.

Think of the future. Without education, we might as well all go back to banging rocks together like the cavemen. How will we cure cancer and find alternative sources of fuel? How will we have the intelligence to take down a nuclear weapon? How will we even have a government?

I think we should all just suck it up. Enough with the selfish American way, ok? If we are trying to prove how great of a country we are to the rest of the world, we are doing a poor job. If you find yourself getting all heated because some of your precious tax dollars are paying for something you don't agree with, relax. One way or another, the government will take your money. So sit back, have a beer, and find something else to complain about.

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Shave an SAE 2009

BY CASEY MCKENNA
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Many Saint Leo University students and organizations strive to make a difference in the life of others. It appears that with the economy the way it is, the last thing on the minds of college students is giving back to others.

The men of Sigma Alpha Epsilon have realized this and have remained faithful to the Children's Miracle Network for the past three years. The Children's Miracle Network is responsible for treating everything from cancer to lung and heart implants in children across the United States and in Canada. When children suffer through difficult health problems, specific tools and treatments are needed to help them.

Doctors in our country understand that when a child is sick, he needs the proper medicine and equipment for *children*. The equipment and medication that adults need for treatment cannot always be used to treat younger patients. This is why the Children's Miracle Network has created an alliance of hospitals and doctors working specifically with children.

Matthew Chong of Sigma Alpha Epsilon is excited for this year's upcoming Shave an SAE event, which will take place on March 3 at 7 p.m. in the Student Community Center.

"Sigma Alpha Epsilon has been doing this for three years. Every year the event has been successful; the first year we raised $1000," said Chong.

His brother, Ryan Regensdorfer, has high hopes for this year's event.

"We are planning to break our $5000 goal with the help of the Saint Leo University community and the help of our corporate sponsors," he said.

This year's title sponsor happens to be Tampa Law, which is donating $1,000 to the event.

"We are getting sponsored by one of our alumni brothers and other companies that include companies that of the brother's families run," said Chong.

Some of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon brothers who have spared their hair for the wonderful cause in the past are Josh Porthouse, Brandon Cooke, Jesse Kuzma, and Thomas "Bubba" Tatum. This event not only provides money for the Children's Miracle Network, but brings an eventful evening to those attending and a smile to the face of students catching a glimpse of the crazy new hairstyles for a week after. Shave SAE is an event full of surprises and excitement leaving attendees entertained, and the Children's Miracle Network with the ability to help sick kids.

Parties Around the World: Mardi Gras

BY LINDSAY RENNER
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Everyone loves a good party. It's simply just human nature to want to be in a big crowd of people dancing and having a good time. Among the most famous parties worldwide is Mardi Gras.

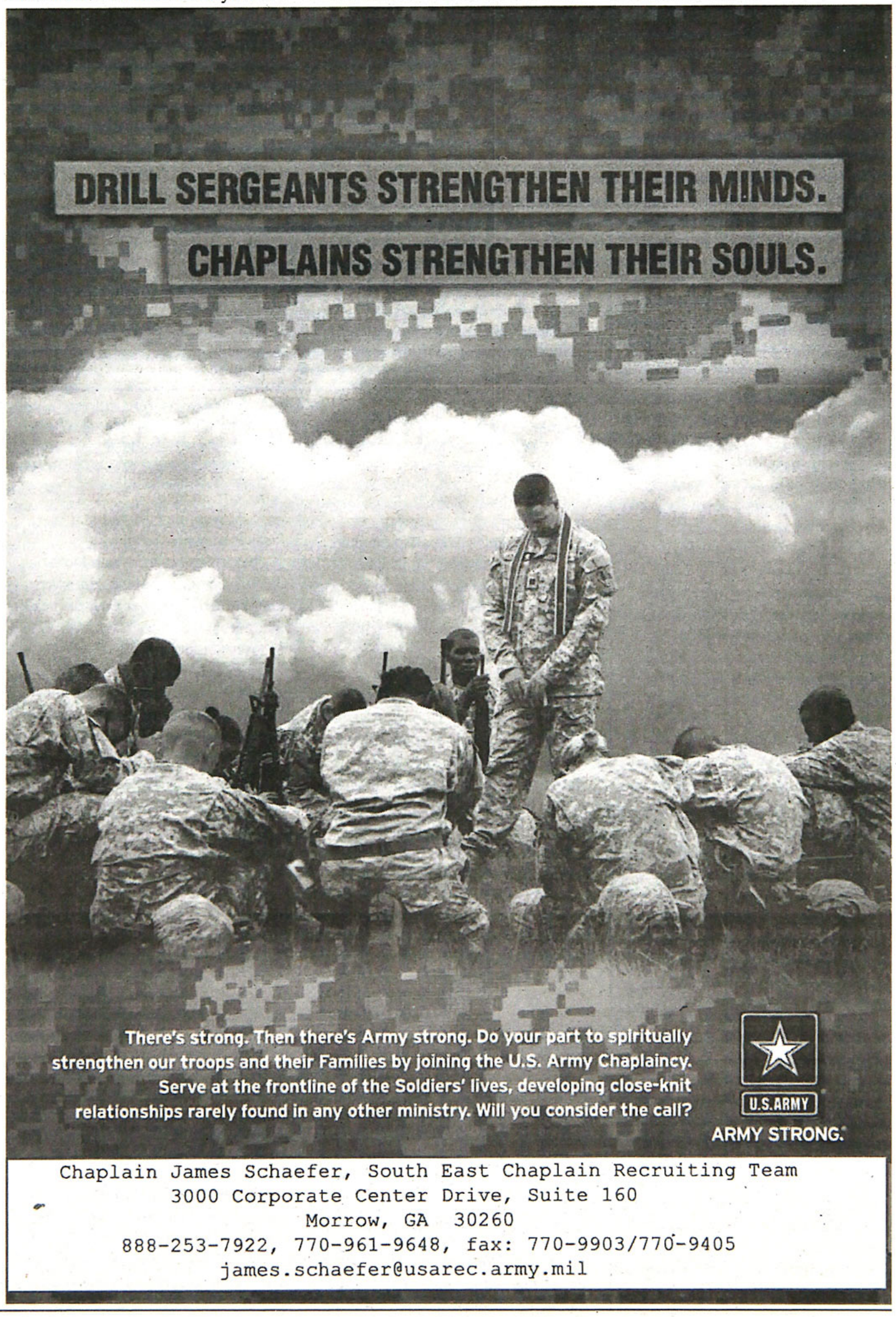
Throughout the United States, Mardi Gras is stereotypically regarded as a holiday of debauchery. If one were to gain his sole understanding of the holiday from television, one would be presented with a day filled with strings of beads, copious amounts of alcohol, and the setting for half the "Girls Gone Wild" DVDs. While Mardi Gras is by nature a cause for celebration, it marks a much more somber occasion than some people may realize: it ends on midnight of Ash Wednesday, which in the Catholic tradition brings about the 40 days of fasting known as Lent.

Mardi Gras first came to the United States in 1699 with Pierre Le Moyne and Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne, a pair of brothers and explorers from France. The pair set out down the mouth of what is now known as the Mississippi River without knowing the territory they were exploring had already been claimed for France. Thus, the two ventured farther up the river, eventually settling about 60 miles from what is today New Orleans. As they landed on Mardi Gras day, the land was christened Point du Mardi Gras, and in 1703 the resulting settlers began a Mardi Gras celebration in the city. By the time New Orleans became the capital of Louisiana in 1723, the Mardi Gras festivities were already a firmly established tradition for the territory.

Although Americans may consider the New Orleans Mardi Gras celebration to be the finest of the holiday's parties, other countries around the world mark the occasion just as joyously. The city of Venice, Italy is home to one of the most famous and long standing carnivals in the world. The Venetians are also responsible for masks becoming so closely associated with Mardi Gras. Although many attempts were made by the Italian government over the years to ban this practice due to its supposedly subversive nature, none have been fully successful.

Mazatlan, Mexico is home to "the third largest Mardi Gras in the world," and incorporates more religious elements. Although many would likely believe France would celebrate Mardi Gras in a rowdy way, the holiday is actually only commonly celebrated in Nice, and is usually marked by a parade of flower covered-floats and brilliantly lit-up nighttime displays.

Like every other holiday, Mardi Gras is celebrated in different ways in different parts of the world. At Saint Leo, there will even be a Mardi Gras party in the SCC boardroom, and many students go to Gasparilla in Tampa. While not explicitly a Mardi Gras celebration, it occurs in close proximity to the holiday.



FIN. AID FROM PAGE 1

"We are urging students to come into the financial aid office early, especially if there are any circumstantial changes for the student," said Herndon. "Plus, a lot of the financial aid is on a first come first serve basis."

Although financial aid from SLU is not changing, students should be aware that state funds are becoming limited. The FRAG grant and Bright Future Scholarships are being re-evaluated. Future graduates may have tougher qualifications for tuition money.

College is expensive, but there are funds available to help students alleviate financial stress. Scholarship money and financial aid is obtainable, and students must take initiative and apply. Eighty-nine percent of undergraduates received need-based aid. The average need-based gift aid for freshman is $7,902.

When asked if he had any advice for students, Bracken replied, "Every piece of scholarship you can apply for, go for it."

GEN. Y FROM PAGE 1

Visible tattoos and multiple piercings don't go over too well in the business world. How comfortable would you feel going to a doctor and he has tattoos and metal hanging off his face?"

Some other helpful advice for Generation Y is to keep Facebook clean. Most employers check their employees' Facebook pages for any telling red-flags, such as nudity, excessive profanity, evidence of drug use, drug paraphernalia, and underage drinking. Myspace and other social networking sites have become a key part of the hiring process for most employers.

With America being in an economic pitfall, Generation Y is going to have to set aside lofty goals and youthful idealism. Instead, replace them with practicality and a cold reality check: America isn't the land of milk and honey anymore. According to *MSNBC*, some job experts claim it's Generation Y's mentality that hinders job seeking success. Generation Y isn't willing to start small and "pay their dues."

Some Generation Y job seekers never had a job before. Not working as a teenager or in college can be a major setback when searching for employment. Most employers don't have the time—or the money—to bring inexperienced Generation Y applicants up to speed in the job market. Time is money, and there aren't enough of both anymore.

Job hopping is another setback of Generation Y. Studies show that Generation Y job-hop every 18 months. Employers are looking for applicants with a stable work history, something the baby boomers are more likely to have.

Job experts believe the current state of the economy will light a fire under Generation Y, forcing them to pound the pavement in competition for jobs with older workers. Generation Y has a better chance at succeeding in this way. But, the future is uncertain for everyone in this recession.

It's so taxing: financial advice for students

BY LINDSAY RENNER
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Money: it's one of the most pressing concerns in anyone's life. As soon as one is old enough to make his own money, it becomes a huge issue and never loses any of its urgency.

As students have probably realized by now, money is far from an endlessly available entity, which is where getting a job comes in. Of course, with the job comes the confusing world of taxes. The forms students receive upon getting a new job seem complex and maybe a little scary, but if they know what to look for and what to do when filling these forms out, it becomes evident that one might not necessarily have to lose as much of that hard-earned dollars as originally feared.

Most people automatically assume that if they have a job, federal income tax automatically withholds a portion of each check they receive. However, as many college students hold part-time jobs, this is not the case. Students may be exempt from tax withholding if they meet the following criteria:

- They are claimed as a dependent (most likely on a parent's tax sheet)
- Their income will not exceed a specific amount
- Their unearned income, which includes interest, etc, is not more than $250
- They do not have income tax liability for the previous year

Students will still have to pay Medicare and Social Security tax, but if they examine the W-4 form carefully and find they meet these guidelines, then they have that much more money in their pockets.

Oftentimes, students with either summer or temporary jobs find at the end of the year they are eligible for a tax refund of income taxes. The information on who has to file a tax return, which return is applicable to them, and how to properly claim a tax refund can all be found in the instructions on tax return forms.

If students find they still need more information when it comes time to fill out their tax forms, the IRS website can be of service.

"You can download the forms…from the website, so you don't have to go out, "said Chuck Fisk, economics professor. "For most students, you won't have to itemize, so taxes should be easier."

Fisk also advised using the website www.taxact.com, which has a program called E-File that helps students file their taxes online, which makes it "much faster to get your money back," according to Fisk.

Ultimately, however, the best tip for tax success is to closely examine every form and look closely for exemptions.

Because the students SAID so

BY JORDAN COATES
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

After noticing an excessive number of write ups and trouble for Saint Leo students regarding alcohol and drugs, Professor Tricia Thibodeau and her students decided it was time for an alternative.

They have come together and are relaying their messages through one of Saint Leo's newest organizations: SAID. SAID stands for the organization Students Against Irresponsible Decisions. Thibodeau and five students started and brought structure to this program in September of 2007. This organization focuses on educating students on the effects of consuming alcohol and drugs.

When meeting with the president of SAID, sophomore Madison Starinieri, she pointed out that they do not tell people not to drink but try to help provide a different alternative to the party scene and to simply educate students on how to make responsible decisions if or when they are involved in these types of situations. Members are often guest speakers during SLU 100 classes upon request by the professors. During this time they provide students with tips on drinking responsibly. These alternatives are most often held during the peak drinking hours at Saint Leo. Last semester SAID provided students with many activities and speakers. The speakers they have invited are usually people influenced by drinking or drugs in some manner. Bobby Petrocelli, an alcohol awareness speaker, was one motivational speaker they provided.

Not only does the group focus on alcohol and drugs, but they draw attention to domestic, sexual, and health awareness.

When asked what her favorite program was, Starinieri spoke of night spikers. Night spikers was the glow in the dark volleyball game organized for students last semester. The game was held right before Christmas break and SAID members asked those participating to sign a pledge to act responsibly over break.

"It feels good as president to see how many people signed it," said Starinieri. Night spikers is not the end of SAID's fun activities, however. The group is currently planning more events and all students are welcome.

SAID currently has 14 non graduate members. They hold biweekly meetings for board members and another biweekly meeting for general members. The group is always looking for new members and the only requirements for membership are an eagerness to improve the student body and to have a desire to make good decisions. Starinieri described the organization as "innovative" and encourages all to join. Not only is this organization getting students involved, but the students are taking a stand. The SAID group follows their new found slogan: impact, inspire, and involve.

Prevent the flu

BY ANDREW SHALNA
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Influenza, more commonly known as the flu, is a serious virus that has been spreading around campus.

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), more than 200,000 people become hospitalized from the flu each year with an average of 36,000 deaths from complications. Around Saint Leo, dozens of students have contracted the flu, which is spreading like wildfire.

"Wash your hands, cough into your elbow," said Helen Keith of the campus Health Center. Hand washing is one of the three tips also given by the CDC and can greatly aid in preventing the flu. Small preventive steps, like getting a yearly flu shot, washing hands, and avoiding contact with unhealthy people, greatly reduce the spread of the flu. If the flu is contracted, prescription antiviral drugs are recommended by the CDC.

Once the flu is contracted, the infected person is contagious for up to five days, even more depending on personal immune systems. A person could feel perfectly fine and still be able to pass on the flu. Extreme caution should be used when infected, and hand washing must occur throughout the day. Hand washing kills tiny droplets of the virus that may be on a person's hands.

"Please get your flu shots next year," said Saint Leo Nurse Kathy Jones. Getting the simple flu shot may prevent people from obtaining the flu and passing it onto their peers.

"I hope more people around campus get their flu shots next year," said freshman Dan McCusker. "It was terrible spending a week in bed. I don't ever want to do that again."

Food for your thoughts

BY JORDAN COATES
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

If students want a chance to break free from cafeteria food and homework-based conversations with faculty, then they should check out one of Saint Leo's programs, Food for Thought.

This is a program run by the activities collaboration team and campus life. The organization has been at Saint Leo for six or seven years. Food for thought was created in order to get students and faculty involved outside of the classroom. Once a month a faculty or staff member organizes and sponsors a dinner trip. The trip is open to any students. Each student may order a dinner of approximately $15-$20 and is only asked to pay five. Transportation is also provided for the trips. The choice of restaurant always varies. It may be the sponsor's favorite place or a unique restaurant that most haven't been to.

After dinner, the organization also likes to incorporate other activities. In the past they have dined on Spanish Cuisine and participated in salsa classes afterwards.

The trips are usually held on the last Friday of every month. The next trip will be Feb. 27 to Kafe Kokopelils and is sponsored by Rande Matteson, criminal justice.

Viva La France: Saint Leo to offer a 2009 study tour in Paris

BY JESSICA SWANSON
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Following the success of the 2008 trip to Dublin, Wales, and London, the English, Fine Arts, and Humanities department are sponsoring yet another trip overseas. This time, it's a visit to Paris, France.

Students will spend nine days in Paris, departing from Tampa on Friday, November 20, 2009, and returning on Saturday, November 28, 2009. While overseas, students will have a chance to visit the Louvre, Musée d'Orsay, Saint Chappelle, Eiffel Tower, Sacre Coeur, Montmartre, Moulin Rouge, Notre Dame Cathedral, and the famous Left Bank.

"I love France. I'm so happy to hear that Saint Leo is sponsoring a trip next semester," said junior Liz Hardy.

The trip to Paris over the Thanksgiving holiday occurs in conjunction with a brand new course offered in fall 2009. This is one of the first dual classes taught at Saint Leo University, combining art and literature into a single course taught by Professors Elisabeth Aiken and Karen Bryant. The course will focus on the study of French history, art, and literature from about 1750-1950, during the time when France was considered to be the world's cultural center. Students who opt to take this course are able to receive either LINK, ENG, or IIA credit. Additionally, they are required to attend the trip to France in November. However, students, alumni, and friends are also welcome to take the trip without taking the course.

www.world-city-photos.org/" >Free pictures of cities

"We strongly encourage students to take the class before they head overseas in order to better appreciate what they are going to see in Paris," said professor Bryan during the interest meeting held on Tuesday, February 10, 2009.

Junior Chelsea Shoemaker, who attended last year's sponsored trip to Dublin, London, and Wales, was glad to hear another travel abroad trip was being offered.

"I'm really excited that Saint Leo is doing a trip again and that a class is being offered with this trip because I feel that I actually apply things that I learn in class. And it's a great experience going overseas with your classmates," Shoemaker said.

The cost for students is about $300 cheaper than it is for adults. For students, the trip to Paris comes to roughly $2,236 with airfare, hotels, and some meals included. The cost for adults is roughly $2,571 for the same amenities. For an early enrollment discount of $100 off the cost of the trip, participants must register by March 31, 2009. The final enrollment date is August 3, 2009. Those enrolling after August 14 will be charged a late fee. Financial aid is available upon request.

For more information, look for flyers around campus or contact either Professor Elisabeth Aiken at (352)588-8281 or elisabeth.aiken@saintleo.edu, or Professor Karen Bryant at (352)588-7385 or karen.bryant@saintleo.edu.

Have you fed your pig today?

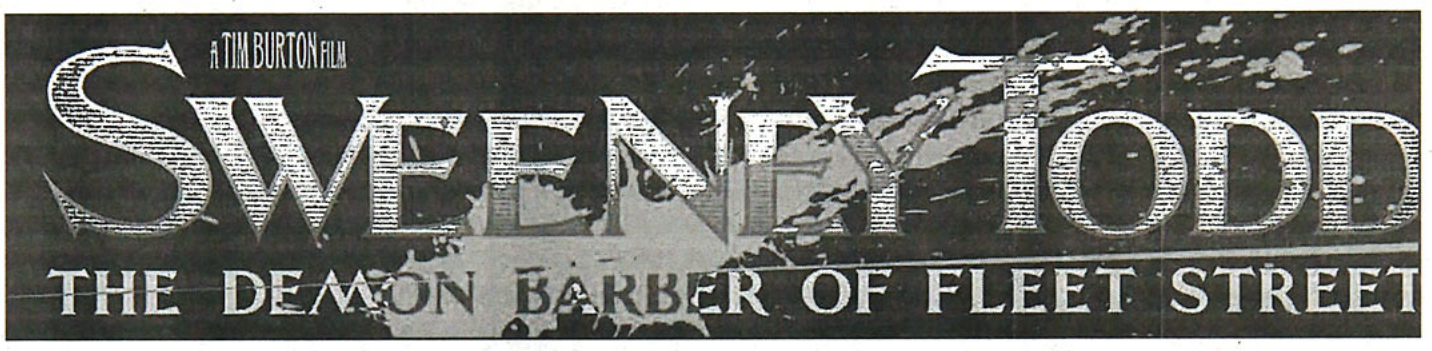
Thousands of pigs are on the loose throughout Saint Leo University and they sure are hungry. Whether it is your individual piggy bank, the big community pig or his virtual twin, please feed them with your spare change in support of the Saint Leo Annual Fund.

For more information, to make a gift, or to get involved visit http://alumni.saintleo.edu/supportchange.php or contact Elizabeth Barr at 352/588-8824

Arts & Entertainment

Saint Leo students get a *taste* of Sweeney

BY JESSICA O'KEEFE
Lions' Pride Assistant Editor



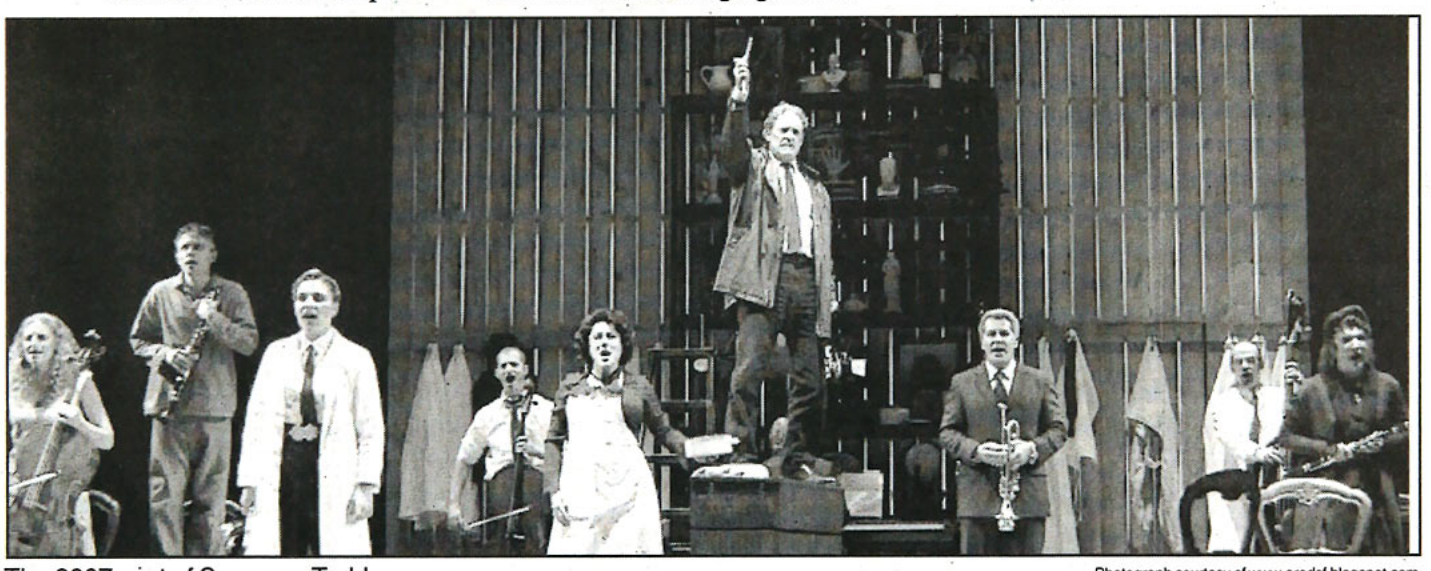
Monday February 9, 2009 Campus Activities Board took a group of students to the Lakeland Center to see the musical production Sweeney Todd. For the students who had seen Tim Burton's film Sweeney Todd, the theatrical production threw them off, since it was only Burton's interruption of Stephen Sondheim Broadway musical Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street.

Sweeney Todd is the tale of a barber seeking revenge. Once known as Benjamin Barker, Sweeney Todd lived in London on Fleet Street where he owned a small barber shop. He lived a simple life with his beautiful wife Lucy and infant daughter Joanna. But the show's villain, Judge Turpin, wanted Lucy for himself and had Barker arrested on false charges and banished for life. The musical opens as Todd returns to London after 15 years of being banished. Upon his arrival he meets Mrs. Lovett, a widow, who happens to own a meat pie shop below his old barber shop. Mrs. Lovett informs Todd that after his banishment the Judge took his daughter and has raised her ever since, and as for his wife she had committed suicide.

The set was simple yet aesthetically pleasing. It consisted of a long bookshelf filled with many different props. Ones used throughout the production. In the middle of the stage laid a black wooden coffin held up by two bulky wooden legs. The coffin was a main prop used to represent a door, podium, the bow of a ship and many other things. Scattered around the coffin were nine chairs, one for each cast member.

What set this musical apart from many popular productions is that the actors are also the orchestra, many playing numerous instruments throughout the show.

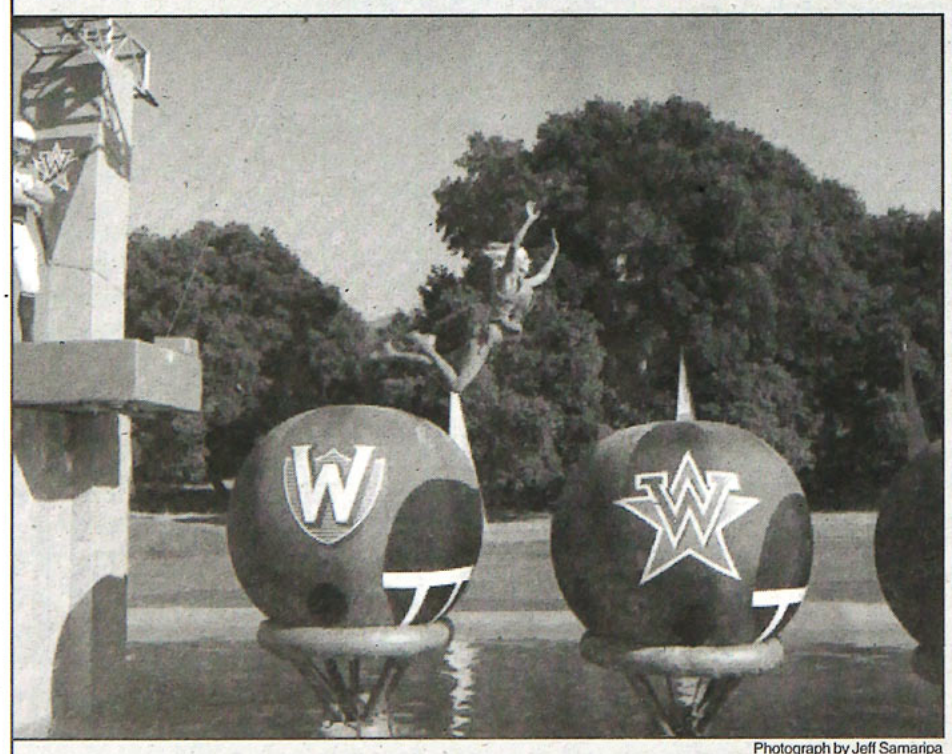
Saint Leo students had mixed reviews on the performance. "I really enjoyed the production. It was very artistic. It was awesome to see such skilled actors simultaneously playing instruments, rearranging the set, singing and acting," said senior Shelley Peterson, while others found it too "artsy." "I don't know it was good but I just wanted more scene changes and an actual set. Don't get me wrong, the show was good and the actors were so talented…it was just different from what I expected," said sophomore Cody Parks.



The 2007 cast of Sweeney Todd.

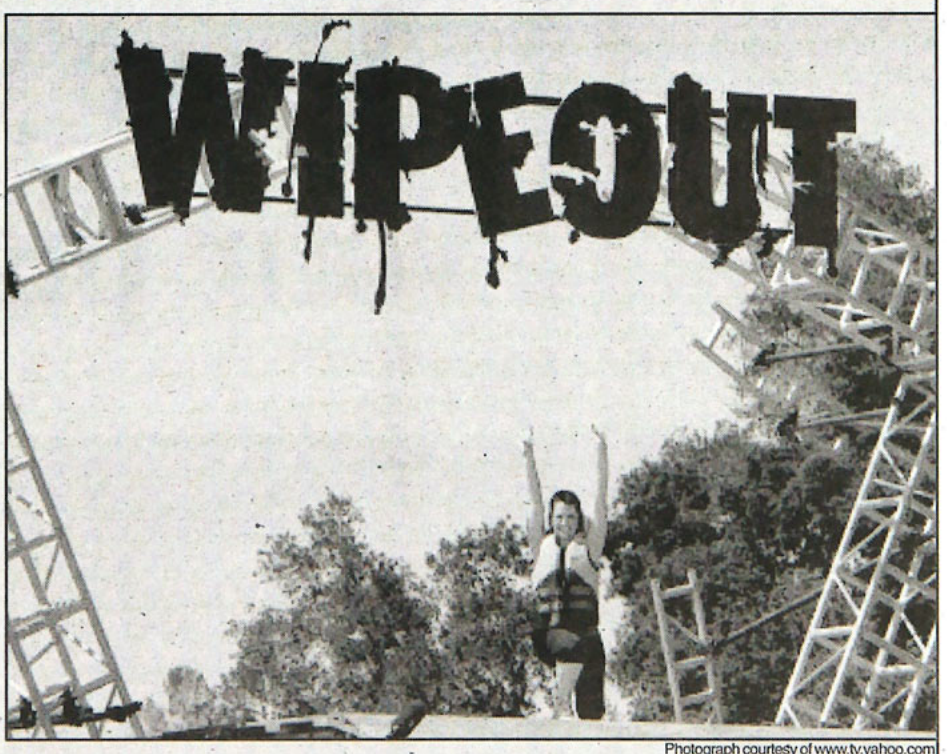
Photograph courtesy of www.arodsf.blogspot.com

The big balls are back!



Photograph by Jeff Samaripa

The wipeout "motivator" watches as a cheerleader takes on the legendary Big Balls.



Photograph courtesy of www.tv.yahoo.com

A wipeout contestant at the beginning of the obstacle course.

BY JOSHUA M. SMITH
Lions' Pride Online Editor

If you are one of those people who finds a perverse pleasure in watching the physical suffering of others, I have good news for you. ABC's obstacle course-laden game show, Wipeout, is back for season two.

The first episode of the season ran on February 1 as the Super Bowl, which aired on NBC, went into halftime. Fittingly, the show featured a football theme. Many of the obstacles were shaped like footballs, football players, or pom-poms. There were even real football players acting as human obstacles: a linebacker provided close-up "motivation" for contestants who stalled too long before moving from one obstacle to another, and several quarterbacks threw paint-soaked foam footballs at the contestants as they navigated the course.

The show was billed "Wipeout Bowl I: Cheerleaders versus Couch Potatoes." Sure enough, 13 current or former cheerleaders (all female) and 13 serious couch potatoes (all male) faced off in an R-O-W-D-I-E rowdy rampage for the $50,000 grand prize.

During the qualifying round, the contestants faced several new obstacles, most still involving unexpected wipeouts into water, mud, or both. The "Big Balls," host John Henson's favorite obstacle, are the only qualifier obstacles retaining from last season. The qualifying round whittled the field of 26 contestants down to six cheerleaders and six couch potatoes.

The next two rounds featured the new and improved Sweeper obstacle and the Dizzy Dummy, which left just four contestants—two cheerleaders and two couch potatoes—in contention for the final round: the Wipeout Zone.

This first episode of Wipeout's second season featured the show's first female grand prize winner ever.

Wipeout will return to ABC's regular primetime schedule in the summer of 2009. Season one episodes and Wipeout Bowl I can be viewed in their entirety on ABC.com with limited commercial interruptions. In addition to Henson, Wipeout is hosted by John Anderson and co-hosted by Jill Wagner.

It Happened One Night

BY MARY F. CHUHINKO
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

The Tampa Theatre is the place to be, if you are a person who enjoys going to the movies the way it was meant to be enjoyed.

The Tampa Theatre plays an old film every Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. They also play newer films such as foreign films and non mainstream films throughout the week.

On this particular week two of Hollywood's legendary stars team up to make the first movie in history to sweep the Oscar's including Best Picture, Best Actor Clark Gable, Best Actress Claudette Colbert, Best Director Frank Capra, and Best Writing. That movie is 'It Happened One Night'!

Claudette Colbert stars as rebel heiress Ellie Andrews, after she put under 'boat arrest' by her father due to the fact that she secretly eloped against his wishes. Ellie makes a break for it, by jumping off the yacht in a dramatic act that would not be the last in this screwball comedy. She swims to a train station and right into trouble... or should we say Mr. Trouble. Clark Gable plays down on his luck reporter Peter Warne whose only way to save his job is to find the story of the century. Ellie is not used to having to fend for herself, so she is lucky to have sly dog Clark Gable watching her back.

The movie had thrills, it had chills, and Clark Gable takes his shirt off! Actually an interesting fact, it was proper back in these days for men to wear undershirts. Clark Gable started a big controversy when he decided to stop wearing undershirts; it was in this film that he "revealed" his new trend and sales plummeted in response to his decision.

It was an overall good movie; it had everything from suspense, action, romance, and humor. The audience was caught up in the film and cheered during key moments, making this a memorable day at the movies.

Screenshot from "It Happened One Night".

An opposites-attract romantic comedy featuring two big stars of the Pre-WWII Age of Filmmaking, Clark Gable as Peter Warne and Claudette Colbert as Ellen "Ellie" Andrews.

Want outstanding Japanese food?

BY TIM PEASE
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

There are many different restaurants around the area, and there are all different types of food to eat. One of the better restaurant choices is Wasabi Japanese steak and Sushi.

This restaurant has a wide variety of Japanese food to choose from. They have everything from sushi to Kobe beef.

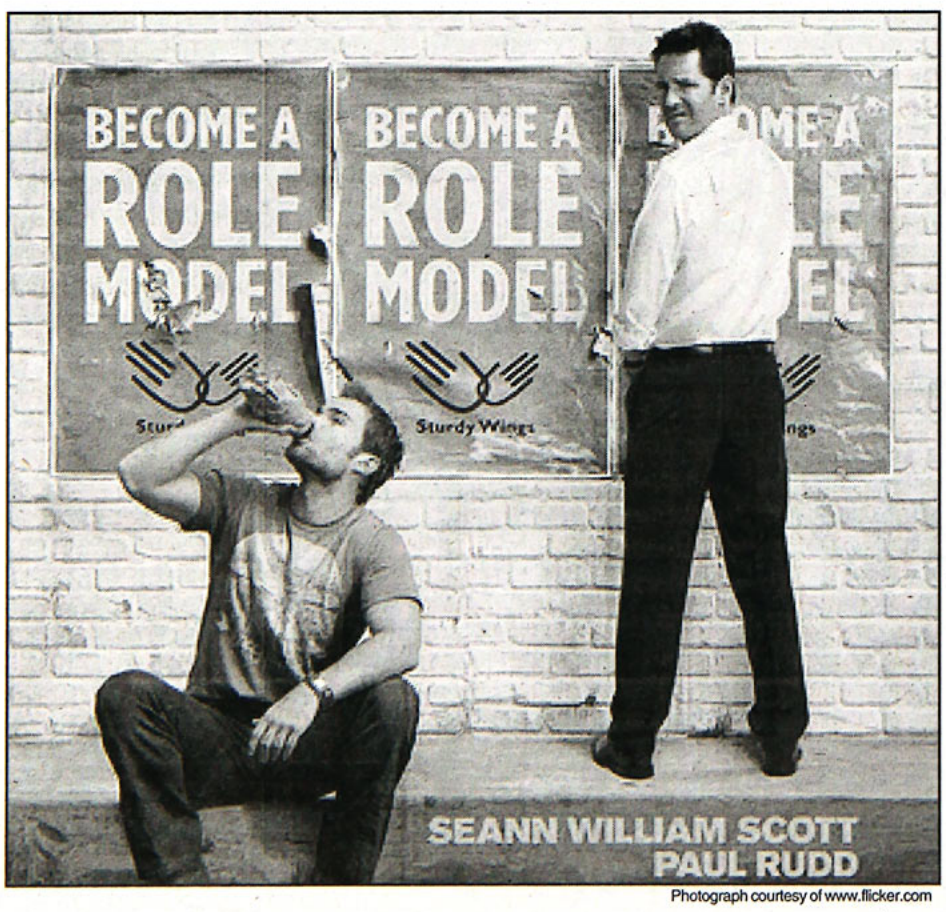
This restaurant is also very unique. You can eat at the sushi bar, or at a table like a normal restaurant, or you can choose to eat at a table where they cook right in front of your eyes. This way is very entertaining. They juggle knives and make huge fires. Also they crack an occasional joke. This is something new and entertaining to try.

Wasabi is located pretty close to campus. It's located on Bruce B Downs Blvd, which is only twenty minutes from campus.

The only negatives about Wasabi is that it's a popular place so if you are going to go around dinnertime, or on the weekend, a reservation is suggested. Also a dinner there can be quite pricey. The average meal will be about twenty dollars a person.

While there are a lot of places to check out and eat a nice dinner, Wasabi would be a great place to go eat and you will not be disappointed with your decision.

Role Models leave Saint Leo students in stitches



Photograph courtesy of www.flicker.com

BY JESSICA O'KEEFE
Lions' Pride Assistant Editor

Campus Activity Board's movie night was a hit. They showed David Wain's featured film "Role Models" which starred Paul Rudd and Seann William Scott. This warm comedy had Saint Leo students in tears from laughing. Students were able to see the film in the boardrooms without admission and got free buttery popcorn, ice cold lemonade, and an assortment of candy. The film was very funny and warm hearted. Although the humor was often crude, resembling that of Superbad and 40 Year Old Virgin, it did tug on your heart strings on certain parts.

After energy drink salesmen Danny and Wheeler, played by Paul Rudd and Seann William Scott, are sentenced to 150 hours of community service for crashing the company truck, they find themselves at Sturdy Wings Youth Center. Here they become Big Brothers to Augie and Ronnie, played by Christopher Mintz-Plasseand and Bobb'e J. Thompson, in Sturdy Wing's mentoring program. At first Danny and Wheeler struggle to help their little brothers, due to their lack of maturity, but in the end they wind up learning from them.

Students really enjoyed the film. "It was awesome. It was funny to an extent, but had no real substance and no love evolved. In Forgetting Sarah Marshall, Knocked Up, and Superbad, love was always involved in at least some way. But overall it was a good movie," said sophomore Myron Kirchner.

Sports

Writers Needed!

Interested in becoming a sportswriter for The Lions' Pride student newspaper? Here's your chance! The Lions' Pride is looking for new sportswriters at Saint Leo University. Benefits include:

- Having your articles circulated throughout the Saint Leo Community
- Getting your name known
- Getting paid to attend sporting events
- Hours can extend to up to 20 hours each week

Federal Work Study students may apply. In addition to the above benefits, this position is a great resume builder, a great opportunity for making connections, and ideal for someone looking to get involved on campus. Potential candidates include Sports Business or English majors, athletes, or writers at large.

If this position sounds too good to pass up, please send an email to Collin.r.good@gmail.com, with Sports Writer in the subject box.

Upcoming Events

Baseball @ Rollins College - February 20 and 21
Softball @ Eckerd College Invitational - February 20 and 21
Men's Basketball @ Nova Southeastern – February 21
Women's Basketball @ Nova Southeastern – February 21
Men's Golf @ Thomas University Winter Invitational – February 23-24
Women's Golf @ 2009 Ann Rhoads Invitational – February 22-23
Men's Tennis @ Rollins College – February 26
Women's Tennis vs. Nova Southeastern – February 21

Editorial

Steroid-Era continues to live on

Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Baseball was once known as America's pastime. Yet in recent years baseball has lost its momentum. America is more into sports like football and basketball. These are sports that actually are limited to only a few hours, have more action and are more intense than baseball.

Another factor is the steroid issue. Baseball went from being about the players like Babe Ruth, Hank Aaron, Lou Gehrig, Roberto Clemente; players who appreciated loved the game and played fair. Nowadays when you talk about baseball, Barry Bonds, Mark McGwire, Roger Clemens and now Alex Rodriguez are first that come to mind. These players are all known for their numbers of course but also how they got their numbers is what causes such a concern.

On February 7, 2009, it was reported by Sports Illustrated that Alex Rodriguez had tested positive for two anabolic steroids in 2003 when he was playing with the Texas Rangers. He was one of 104 players who tested positive for steroids that year. Alex Rodriguez has been known as the player who works hard and has earned his numbers in a fair way. "After everything with Barry Bonds, he [Rodriguez] was set to be the next clean homerun record holder, one of the best." Lion's pitcher, Caleb Fuddy said when asked about Rodriguez. "He flushed his chances out the window now."

This also doesn't seem to surprise too many people anymore. Eugene Garnett, outfielder for the Lions simply stated, "It's common nowadays. I lost respect for him but he is still a good hitter." When asked about the penalties for the players they both agreed that the fines should be more, get suspended two times and that's it.

Steroids is a big deal on two levels, one it kills the game and two what kind of message is it sending to younger boys who want to be in the MLB and look up to these athletes? Lion's starter, Aaron Brandt looks at pitchers' like Mariano Rivera, "he hasn't done steroids and is very successful." Good to know there are some players that still stick to the good old fashion way of hard work, dedication and talent.

Nothing can happen to Rodriguez because this happened in 2003, when they weren't testing for steroids. What is in store for Rodriguez? Time will only tell. Rodriguez's clean name is no more- that is for sure. He will get booed and be under the microscope once again. SI reported this around the same time when Phelps was getting suspended for having a picture taken with him doing pot. Phelps is 23 years old and made a mistake that didn't affect his game, he was just being young. Rodriguez did something that is not only wrong but cheated the game of baseball as well. There is a difference between the Michael Phelps' and the Alex Rodriguez's out there. How will this so-called "steroid era" go down in history? Time will only tell.

Saint Leo's Women Athletes Honored at Banquet

BY MINDY PIERCE
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Over two hundred women athletes, coaches, faculty, alumni, and distinguished guests gathered outside the boardrooms for hors d'oeuvres and mingled before attending the 23rd Annual National Women in Sports Banquet.

The annual Women in Sports Banquet, held on February 3, 2008, recognized all women student athletes at Saint Leo University. Every year, a prestigious woman speaker who is involved in sports and a role model to younger women athletes everywhere, attends the banquet. This year, the influential Celia Slater, a Clearwater native and former basketball player, was honored as the 16th Saint Leo University Women in Sports Achievement Award recipient. She gave an inspirational speech to Saint Leo's prominent athletes with words of wisdom to carry on throughout life even without sports. The Sodexo Scholarship Award, valued at $1000, consisted of certain criteria that the athletes had to meet in order to receive the scholarship. The following requirements that had to be met: she supports her teammates and coaches with a positive attitude and is aware of individual responsibilities as a team player, she gives 100% effort toward her sport and her team, she is involved in some type of external community service activity, she demonstrates leadership, personal integrity and a tremendous team spirit, and that she is an ambassador for Saint Leo University at all times. The awards were presented by Mr. Rich Vogel, General Manager of Sodexo.

Saint Leo celebrates its athletes with an annual banquet

Photograph Courtesy of Donovan Rummel

The winners for the Sodexo scholarship are: Courtney Kassab (Soccer), Joanna Bussa (Basketball), Anna Riss (Golf), Mindy Pierce (Cross Country), Ashton Whidden (Softball), Gina Schifano (Tennis), Erin Lucas (Swimming), and Chelsea Armer (Volleyball).

The biggest award given that night, the Elaine Evans Spirit of Saint Leo Award, was given to Ally Maddox (Softball) while the runner up was Chelsea Armer (Volleyball). All coaches were asked to nominate an athlete who demonstrated great community service, poise, and team spirit for her team and the school.

Another award was given to Softball's head coach, Christi Wade, for achieving her 400th win at Saint Leo University.

Saint Leo University's Women in Sports Banquet is one of Florida's oldest celebrations of female athletes.